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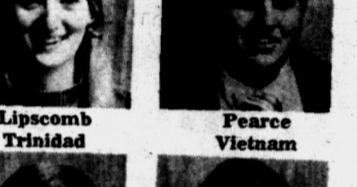
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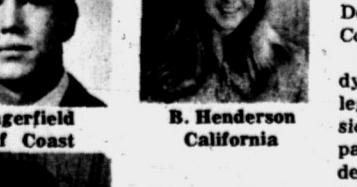
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The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Published Since 1877

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 1972

Volume XCII, Number 6

Nixon Not To Address SBC

BELLAIRE, Tex. (BP) — President Richard M. Nixon will not be able to address the Southern Baptist Convention in Philadelphia, June 8, because of a schedule conflict, the chairman of the committee that issued the invitation announced here.

Lee Porter, pastor of First Baptist Church, Bellaire, and chairman of the SBC Committee on Order of Business, said his committee deeply regretted the schedule conflict.

President Nixon, through a White House aide, told the committee that "in consideration of the President's forthcoming trip to the Soviet Union, and other related matters, it is now apparent that he will not be able to take advantage of the opportunity to be with you at your convention."

The letter to the committee was signed by Dwight Chapin, deputy assistant to the President.

Porter said in announcing the de-

cision that the White House had told him that the President's trip to Russia had been extended to include Iran and that there is a possibility for other stopovers and extensions to other countries.

Currently, the President is scheduled to leave for the Russia trip on May 22, and return May 31, though the date of the return could change.

Porter added that although the President will be in the United States on the day he previously had hoped to address the Southern Baptist Convention, he will be involved in "debriefing" following the Russia trip.

The Houston area pastor staunchly denied that criticism from some quarters of the SBC of the President's speaking to the convention during an election year had anything to do with the President's inability to accept the invitation.

Editorials in three Baptist state

papers have criticized the invitation to the President, while editorials in two other papers have favored the invitation. Editorials opposing the invitation to President Nixon have appeared in the Texas Baptist Standard, the Oklahoma Baptist Messenger, and the Baptist New Mexican. Editorials supporting the President's speaking have appeared in the South Carolina Baptist Courier and the Mississippi Baptist Record.

Porter said, however, that his committee and Carl Bates, president of the Southern Baptist Convention, have received only a total of nine letters concerning the invitation. Five of the letters supported the committee, while four opposed the invitation.

"All our sources indicate that criticism of the President's addressing a religious body during an election year was not the reason for the decision,"

(Continued On Page 2)



This painting of the Clear Creek Baptist Church, located in Washington, Miss., is one of several that adorns the walls of the Baptist Historical Commission at Mississippi College. The Clear Creek Church was organized in 1812, with the building constructed in 1828. The Mississippi Baptist Convention was organized here in 1836.—(M.C. Photo by Bill Strange)



Among the many treasures located in the Baptist Historical Commission quarters at Mississippi College are the official minutes of the various Associations of the state. They include the minutes of the Mississippi Association, organized in 1806, through the most recent meetings.—(M.C. Photo by Bill Strange)

Heyday For History Buffs!

History buffs could have a heyday in a corner of the soon-to-be-expanded Leland Speed Library at Mississippi College.

Especially if they are Baptists. They could read minutes of the first associational meeting ever held in the state.

Time could be spent thumbing through the yellowed pages of old copies of the Baptist Record, state denominational paper.

They could read the organizational report of the Mississippi Baptist Convention or scan a history of Mis-

sissippi Baptists dating all the way back to 1780.

All of this information, and more,

Historical Commission headquarters on the second floor of the Mississippi College library.

The room houses the most complete historical date on Baptist meetings and records to be found anywhere.

Available for study are the original minutes of the Mississippi Association of 1806, the first association organized in the state. Interested persons can

(Continued on page 5)

Men Promote Cooperative Program Day

By Michael L. Speer

April 16 is the date most Southern Baptists will observe Cooperative Program Day. Baptist Men will actively participate in this annual emphasis, reflecting their concern for sharing the gospel with the world.

Cooperative Program dollars are at work around the world . . . ministering to people in need . . . providing missionaries . . . telling the story of God's love . . . healing . . . teaching . . . preaching . . . doing the hundreds of things that each of us would like to be able to do.

Southern Baptists entered the 70's with the largest number of personnel assigned to overseas posts by any Protestant group. In this decade, world need will require at least a net gain of 125 overseas missionaries annually. This growth rate will call for two million dollars of new money each year to maintain the work these missionaries are commissioned to do.

The Cooperative Program helps support 6 seminaries; 43 senior colleges and universities, enrolling over 22,000 students; 24 junior colleges, academies and Bible schools, enrolling over 14,000 students.

The Cooperative Program is synonymous with missions and mission support to 430,000 Southern Baptist men and boys who participate in Brotherhood Commission organizations.

3073 weekly radio-television programs are aired by the Radio and Television Commission of the South-

ern Baptist Convention. This Commission receives .048¢ out of your Cooperative Program dollar. These programs reach a potential audience of more than fifty million people a week.

Southern Baptists maintain an office and staff in the nation's capital

(Continued On Page 2)

Village Adds 'Satellite'

The Baptist Children's Village has added a new dimension to its multi-service ministry of Christian child care, according to an announcement released by Paul N. Nunnery, the Village superintendent. Mr. Nunnery has revealed that on February 6, 1972 the first "group home" or "satellite home" was opened by the Children's Village in New Albany, with the placement of eight children in a private residence in that city.

Describing the facility as "a thrilling and progressive new chapter in the history of Baptist child care in Mississippi," Nunnery explained that the New Albany addition is actually

(Continued On Page 2)

Man And Boy Rallies Set

A series of four Man and Boy Rallies will be held over the state April 20-May 4, according to Rev. E. L. Howell, director of the Brotherhood Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, sponsor.

Program personalities include Buddy McElroy, of Clarke Memorial College, Newton, who will direct the musical activities; Rev. James Smith, pastor of First-Baptist Church, Mendenhall; T. G. Sadler, a highway patrolman; Rev. Joe McKeever, minister of evangelism, First Baptist Church, Jackson; Rev. James Street, pastor of First Baptist Church, Wiggins; Rev. Gus Merritt, pastor of First Baptist Church, Lexington; Rev. Clyde Little, pastor of First Baptist

Church, Holly Springs; Paul Harrell, associate in the Brotherhood Department and Frank Lawton, minister of music, Whitehaven Baptist Church.

Mr. Howell said that the program

for each meeting would be interesting and challenging and is planned to include fun, fellowship, inspiration and challenge.

He urges every man and boy to attend the meeting most convenient.

Each meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m., without a supper meal, and close at 9:00 p.m.

The schedule of meetings follows:

April 20 — First Baptist Church, Hazlehurst; April 27 — First, Lexington; April 28 — First, Wiggins; May 4 — First, Oxford.

COOPERATIVE PROGRAM DOLLARS AT WORK AROUND THE WORLD!

CAUTION

BRESNAHAN construction
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MANDARIN BAPTIST CHURCH OF LOS ANGELES

COOPERATIVE PROGRAM DAY - APRIL 16, 1972



Break Ground For Baptist School

DALLAS—Dr. W. A. Criswell (right), pastor of First Baptist Church of Dallas, largest church in the Southern Baptist Convention, and Donald Bowles, building fund chairman, shake hands as ground is broken for the six-story, \$3-million building that the church is building to house its new elementary school. The school will be located on one of the three blocks of land the 16,000-member church owns in the heart of downtown Dallas. In announcing plans for the new school last Fall, Dr. Criswell, a past president of the Southern Baptist Convention, asserted that it had nothing to do with the current desegregation crisis in the Dallas school system but is the fulfillment of a dream he has had since coming to the church 25 years ago. He predicted that the building "will be paid for when the last brick is laid."—(RNS Photo)

Mississippi College Commitment Campaign

The Need, The Appeal, The Response

By Chester Swor

Three things impress me in the presentations of the Mississippi College Commitment Campaign:

1. THE NEED. . . . The needs which the projected buildings will meet, for instance, are not mere desirables; they are urgent imperatives. When the present gymnasium, Alumni Hall, was completed in 1926, it was widely heralded as the second largest facility of its sort in the South. It could seat all the students and many visitors comfortable for all except unusually "high voltage" games. Our Chapel could seat the entire student body on the main floor.

What a difference exists on the 1972 Mississippi College campus! Hardly a third of the present student body could be accommodated in Alumni Hall and no visitors could be seated. College assemblies would have to have four or five sittings in Provine Chapel to make possible the attendance of all the students. Even Nelson Auditorium can't accommodate the student body. Therefore, as we see, there is actually a desperate need for a multi-purpose facility which can accommodate the college family and visiting friends for both athletic and academic events.

LIBRARY AND LEARNING RESOURCES constitute one of higher education's greatest needs, and to accrediting associations these resources are an important indicator of the academic virility of a college. THE NURSING AND HOME ECONOMICS BUILDING will be neither a replacement nor enlargement of buildings built earlier for these growing divisions of the college curriculum, but will be actually the first suitable and adequate quarters these departments have had.

2. THE APPEAL is strikingly reasonable in the total amount of gifts sought. Many of us who did graduate work in publicly financed institutions know from a alumni mail-outs that any one building currently announced for those campuses may well cost as much as or more than the total goal of our Alma Mater's Commitment campaign. The appeal is, indeed, reasonable.

3. OUR RESPONSE to the unquestioned NEED and to the truly reasonable APPEAL should indicate our appreciation of the serious desire of Mississippi College to provide these urgently needed facilities plus a half million dollars of resources for general development—all at a total amount less than many other institutions of higher learning spend on only one building these days. How inspiring to the college it will be if we achieve the goal and go far beyond its suggested amount!

Baptist Children's Village Opens

(Continued From Page 1) Evans, who is a veteran member of the Board of Trustees at the Children's Village. Envisioned as a joint mission project by First Church and

the Village, the church provides and maintains the dwelling house and pays all utility fees and charges, while the Village staffs the home, satisfies all remaining living expenses



Part of the Village's "New Albany family" poses at the front door of their home.

Men Promoting Cooperative Program Day

(Continued From Page 1)

city. The Public Affairs Committee supported through Cooperative Program gifts, is empowered to enunciate, commend, and defend the historic Baptist principle of religious freedom.

—More than one fourth of the broadcast at least one Radio-TV Commission program each week in the United States.

—Cooperative Program funds help support the seminaries, including faculty members. The objective of these seminaries is to provide theological education with the Bible as center of the curriculum, for God-called men and women to meet the need for trained leadership in the work of the churches.

—The state conventions and the Southern Baptist Convention depend on the Cooperative Program plan of giving for their very existence.

—All Cooperative Program funds originate with the local church.

—Every seminary student receives the equivalent of a \$2,400 scholarship each year through Cooperative Program support of the seminary.

—It costs approximately \$4,000 an hour to operate our far-flung foreign mission program carried on by over 2,500 Southern Baptist missionaries in 76 countries.

—There are 33 state conventions in the Southern Baptist Convention supported through Cooperative Program gifts and there are Southern Baptist churches in all 50 of the United States.

—Enrolled in Seminary Extension Department courses during 1970-71 were 4,769 students, representing 48 states and 13 foreign countries. These were made possible through Cooperative Program funds.

—Approximately 45 percent of the total support of the Home Mission

Board's work comes through the Cooperative Program.

—The entire amount of each Cooperative Program dollar received by the Annuity Board goes for the relief of aged ministers or their widows who never had the opportunity to participate in the protection or retirement programs. Out of every Cooperative Program dollar, less than one penny goes for relief but this keeps some 450 ministers and widows of ministers in food, shelter, medicine, and clothes.

—The Home Mission Board carries on the work of twelve mission programs assigned to it by the convention.

—Course enrolments during 1970-71

involves over 2,500 missionary personnel. Cooperative Program dollars help support these ministries.

—Approximately 6,000 children in 27 children's homes receive support through the Cooperative Program.

—The work of the SBC Executive Committee is made possible because of Cooperative Program dollars. The budget for the Executive Committee comes from the convention operating budget. It receives only about three fourths of one cent of each Cooperative Program dollar. Every effort is made to keep costs down.

—Course enrolments during 1970-71

in the 187 Extension Centers and Home Study Institute operated by the Seminary Extension Department total 6,939.

You and your church have a part in each of these ministries as you share your gifts through the Cooperative Program. It becomes even more personal when your church dares to make a bold commitment to world mission support and each member is confronted with world need. You can have a part in helping your church decide how much it will give to world missions through the Cooperative Program. Pray about it!

A Revival Is A Must For Survival

"Many persons here (in London) and in Ireland agree that the Ulster crisis has now taken a dark turn for the worse and hopes for a political settlement have become even more remote." So reported the UPI in a news story several weeks ago.

Dr. John Haggai, president and founder of Evangelism International, agrees. Convinced that the road to peace is not a political one, the world evangelist accepted a unanimous invitation from a host of ministers and laymen to hold an all-Ulster Crusade in Belfast from June 11 through July 9 of this year.

Meeting recently in Belfast with the committee and top government officials, Dr. Haggai reported that his acceptance was greeted with enthusiasm and that the general consensus was: "A revival is a must for the survival of Ulster."

Haggai met with the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Rt. Hon. Ivan Neill; the Governor of Northern Ireland, His excellency Lord Grey of Naunton; the Minister of Community Relations, the Rt. Hon. William Basil McIvor. Haggai's Associate met with the Chief Commissioner of Interior Security, Mr. Walker.

The security chief said, "A united front on the part of the churches is

our only hope," but pointed up the explosive situation in Northern Ireland when he assured the evangelist, "I will personally guarantee your security."

The importance of the upcoming crusade was underscored by another member of the group who said, "The turmoil we are now involved in is not necessarily Catholic vs. Protestants but one fostered by Mao Communism."

Dr. Haggai — whose world-wide evangelism organization is based in Atlanta, Georgia — is really a citizen of the world and one whom many disagree is ideally suited for this type of ministry. His name, profile and fam-

ily heritage are Eastern. His training program in Singapore prepares Third World Christian leaders to begin and carry on an indigenous evangelistic ministry in their own countries.

Nearly one million persons have heard this dynamic preacher through his crusades in Portugal, Korea, Singapore, Indonesia, India and other strategic spots. In Portugal, Haggai conducted the first public Protestant religious meetings in modern times. Authorities there attribute a new wave of religious freedom to his work.

The Hattal team will return to Portugal this spring with a week's crusade in Oporto from April 16-23 and one in Lisbon from April 24 to May 10.



Track Chaplain

HIALEAH, Fla. — Dr. Alfred C. Vansant walks from the Hialeah Race Course stables with a horse named Work My Way and jockey Roger Hudson. Dr. Vansant, a missions pastor on the staff of the Hialeah First Baptist church, recently opened an office at Hialeah to become the first official track chaplain in Florida. He is a familiar sight at the track, spending his mornings around the stable ministering to the 1,500 employees there.

The work of Dr. Vansant and others has led to an upsurge of religion at race tracks, and not just among the gamblers who pray when they place their last \$2 on a 100-to-1 shot. The American Baptist Convention, for instance, plans to establish a full-time track ministry in New Jersey and the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board plans to place chaplains at all Florida race courses next year.—(RNS Photo)

'Satellite' Home In New Albany

large point out that group homes of the New Albany type constitute progressive and Christian child-care facilities of the highest order, affording the children placed therein every shelter, every professional service, and every protection afforded boys and girls in care of the large Jackson campus, under the direct and constant supervision of trained Village staff members.

At the same time, it is emphasized, the children in the group home enjoy every advantage of private living under conditions which approximate their own natural homes. Large family groups; children with various social and emotional needs of a specialized nature; children who must remain in Village custody for many years, but who will be damaged emotionally by the scheduled routine and the public-living pattern which must

Many individual friends of the Village assisted in preparing the large, two-story dwelling for its use as a group home, donating labor and material; stocking the pantry with a generous supply of groceries and canned goods in an old-fashioned "pounding", and contributing couches, chairs, tables, lamps and other items of new furniture to fill the spacious home.

On Sunday, March 12, Mr. and Mrs. Hugh E. Kilgore, the Village staff members who serve the New Albany home as houseparents, with the assistance of the ladies of the church, joined their children in welcoming approximately 150 guests at an "open-house." Superintendent and Mrs. Nunnery and Mrs. Claire Nowlin, ACSW, Director of Social Service on the Village staff, also were present to greet the guests. Mrs. Nowlin, a graduate social worker who supervises all social case work at the Village maintains personal supervision of the New Albany home and its children.

Authorities at the Children's Vil-

lage characterize life on an institution's campus, are said to benefit from supervised care under private-home circumstances in a group home such as the New Albany "satellite home."

In summarizing his personal reaction to this new area of Village work, Superintendent Nunnery stated "Nothing, except the successful realization of a dream in the form of our modern cottage-style campus in Jackson, exceeds the rewarding and very personal blessing which I continue to feel from my own exposure to this helpful enterprise. We are so grateful to Brother Evans and to the people of First Baptist Church for helping us make possible a badly-needed facility which we pray will be the first of several in the state. No one could question the philosophy or the Christianity of what we are doing

together there, if he could have shared with me, the lifting thrill of accompanying our New Albany 'family' of 10 down the aisles of First Baptist Church on Sunday, February 8, in response to the invitation-hymn of the morning worship service. Thus commenced an entirely new life — together — for these lovely children who included among their number six brothers and sisters — all members of the same natural family."

"As we again approach the observation of Christian Home Week, it is my prayer that all Mississippi Baptist churches will remember, with renewed dedication, that this compassionate ministry, and all of the many other compelling and Christian Village services to neglected and dependent children and their families, are made possible, in large measure, by the Mother's Day Offering."



Mrs. Claire Nowlin, Director of Social Service at Baptist Children's Village and supervising case worker of the New Albany group home of the Village, advises with Mr. and Mrs. Hugh E. Kilgore, Village staff members who are houseparents in the New Albany facility.

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Summer Missioners

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es on weekends.

The appointments were made by the Student Missions Committee of the Mississippi Baptist Student Convention.

The financial goal for this year is \$12,300. The missionaries do not receive salaries. Room and board is furnished by the mission where the student works. Transportation and other necessary expenses are provided by the missions offering gifts of college students and student directors. No church is solicited for contributions.

Baptist Student Union missions is a program sponsored jointly by state departments of student work, National Student Ministries of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, the Home Mission Board, and the Foreign Mission Board, SBC.

Sneed Named Editor, Arkansas Baptist

LITTLE ROCK (BP) — J. Everett Sneed has been elected editor of the Arkansas Baptist Newsmagazine.

The action was taken by the Executive Board of the convention in a meeting April 4.

Sneed will assume his duties May 8. He succeeds Erwin L. McDonald as editor of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention publication.

Sneed, 41, has served as director of special missions ministries of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention for the past two and a half years. He formerly was superintendent of missions for the Independence Baptist Association in Arkansas. He has also pastored churches in Texas.

Sneed holds the bachelor of science in education degree from Arkansas College, Batesville, Ark.; the bachelor of divinity degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth; and the master of arts degree from Baylor University, Waco, Tex. He also holds the doctor of philosophy degree from the University of Heidelberg, Germany.

Sneed, a native of Batesville, Ark., is the son of a Baptist minister, the late E. I. Sneed, who served churches in Independence County, Ark.

I know a wonderful Jesus Christ who can take you apart and put you back together again. There is a supernatural power in the Bible and its message. — John Bisagno in *The Power of Positive Preaching to the Saved*, a Broadman book

Attention, Youth

Instrumentalists

The Church Music Department of the Sunday School Board, SBC, invites you to apply for scholarship to Music Leadership Week, Ridgecrest, N.C., June 29 - July 5, 1972, or Glorieta, New Mexico, July 20 - 26 or both.

Orchestral personnel are needed to play for the Elijah at Ridgecrest, and Brahms' Requiem at Glorieta.

The scholarship will pay your registration and your room and board based on rates of two per room. You provide your own travel.

In exchange, you will give 2 - 3 hours of rehearsal time daily. At other times you are free to attend the conferences:

Write for scholarship application:
Mr. Samuel Shanks
127 Ninth Ave., North
Nashville, Tenn. 37234

Applications must be in hand by May 1, 1972. For further information, write to Mr. Shanks.

Gulfshore Assembly Planning Committee

Is Engaged In Making Preliminary Studies

The Gulfshore Assembly Planning Committee, appointed after the vote of the 1971 Mississippi Baptist Convention to rebuild the Gulfshore facility, met in Jackson on Tuesday, April 4.

The committee is using professional help in gathering information and making preliminary studies relative to rebuilding of the assembly, which

Records Broken At Derby Church

Derby Church near Poplarville recently had a "Break - The Record Day" in Sunday School and Church Training. The record goals of 106 and 43 were set by the church for Sunday School, and Church Training respectively. The attendance far exceeded the goals with 159 in Sunday School and 70 in Church Training.

The church had a record weekly average in March for Sunday School with an average of 98 per Sunday. Rev. Jim Waller, pastor, wore a helmet after the special service on March 4 and members of the congregation got to "Break - The Records" (phonograph) over his head because they broke the attendance records. Sebron Alexander is Sunday School director.

ROME — About 20 persons responded to an invitation to make a public profession of faith in Christ following a sermon by evangelist Murray Bradfield. Such invitations are unusual among Italian evangelical churches, Southern Baptist missionary Robert Hollifield says. Bradfield, who is associated with "God's Love in Action," spoke to several hundred persons at the Centocelle Baptist Church here.

Johnson Is New Pastor

Southside, Hattiesburg

Rev. W. N. Johnson, former resident of Hattiesburg, is the new pastor of Southside Church.

He moved to Hattiesburg from Friendship Church, Jones County, where he was pastor for six years and one month. During that time at Friendship, many things were accomplished under his leadership.

A former member of the Hattiesburg Police Department, Mr. Johnson is married to the former Grace Walker of Myrtle. They have two children, Mrs. Harry (Beverly) M. Thomas, Jr., whose husband is a doctor at Misssions Hospital, Denver, Colorado, and Chief Robert M. (Bobby) Johnson, who teaches in the U. S. Navy's submarine school in Groton, Connecticut. The Johnsons have four grandchildren (both son and daughter have two sons each).

I am a person of worth created in the image of God. — Grady Nutt in *Being Me*, a Broadman book



Southwestern Singers To Perform In Mississippi

Churches in Mississippi will be hosting a touring Southwestern Singers of Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., April 14-17. The 36-voice Singers, under the direction of Robert L. Burton, will perform a program of sacred music at stops which include the following:

"Cross And Switchblade" To Play In Mississippi

The powerful motion picture, "The Cross And The Switchblade," will be playing in theaters in Mississippi. This film is the story of Rev. David Wilkerson, ghetto minister confronted with extraordinary challenges having to deal with the problems of drugs, racial prejudice, and other problems present in today's environment.

Following are the theaters and playdates: Joy, Vicksburg, April 15-18; Winona, Winona, April 16-19; Paramount, Clarksdale, April 16-19; Cinema, Greenville, April 21-27; Cinema, Hattiesburg, April 21-27; Arabian, Laurel, April 22-25; Ellis, Cleveland, April 23-28; Roxy, Newton, April 23-26; Royal, Meridian, April 26 - May 2; Town, Forest, April 30 - May 3; Surfside, Biloxi, May 5-11; Dixie, Ripley, May 3-6; Jackson Mall, Jackson, May 11-17; Lyric, Tupelo, May 11-17.

Holly, Holly Springs, May 7 - 9; Valley, Water Valley, May 11 - 13; Starkville, May 17-20; Palace, McComb, May 17 - 20; Paramount, Greenwood, May 20 - 23; Cine', New Albany, May 18 - 20; Mono, Monticello, May 25 - 30; Haven, Brookhaven, May 28 - 30; Yazoo, Yazoo City, May 28 - 30; Frontier, Wiggins, June 4-6; Starlite Drive In, Belmont, June 11-13; Danny, Durant, June 24-28; Lee Drive In, Tupelo, June 25-28.

I am a person of worth created in the image of God. — Grady Nutt in *Being Me*, a Broadman book

pected that several of these will be from Southern Baptist library headquarters at Nashville.

Workshops are scheduled to include one for the new library workers as well as one for experienced librarians, book selection and promotion, classification and cataloguing, book repair and audio - visuals.

Mrs. Hight says, "We are thrilled to be having this first meeting at Louisville and feel it is a historical event and a milestone in Baptist church library work in Mississippi. We do hope that every church library in the state will be represented."

Those who never have partaken of a Lake Tiak O'Kata smorgasbord have a treat in store. Rooms and cabins are available there as well as at two local motels.

Anyone desiring more information may contact Mrs. A. M. Jordan at 6 A Park Ave., Jackson, Miss., Mr. Cummings at the Baptist Building, or any member of the executive committee.

State Pastor's Son Killed In Accident

Airman Timothy Hale, 19, son of Rev. and Mrs. Bill Hale, was killed April 2 in a one car accident when his car left the road and overturned on U. S. Highway 20 near Basin Bayou, Fla. Death was apparently instantaneous.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m. Tuesday April 4, at Goss Baptist Church where his father serves as pastor.

Airman Hale was a native of Mobile, Ala., born Sept. 25, 1952. He graduated from Richton High School and attended Jones Junior College before entering the Air Force in April 1971. He was stationed at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. The Hale family had lived in Mississippi for several years and in the Goss community for a year and a half.

Survivors are his parents, Rev. and Mrs. Bill Hale; two brothers, John Hale of Lucedale and Jim Hale of Goss; one sister, Miss Mary Denise Hale of Goss; and a grandmother, Mrs. H. S. Inabnit of Panama City, Fla.

Baptist Pastors' Conference

Proposed Program Convention Hall, Philadelphia Civic Center Monday, June 5, 1972

Morning Session

- 9:30 Congregational singing — Gerald B. Ray, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Houston
- 9:35 Invocation—Ken Chamblin, pastor, Horseshoe Drive Baptist Church, Alexandria, La.
- 9:37 Message—Carey Miller, pastor, Central Baptist Church, Aurora, Colo.
- 9:40 Special music
- 10:00 Message—Frank Minton, pastor, Tower Grove Baptist Church, St. Louis, Mo.
- 10:30 Congregational singing
- 10:40 Solo—Wm. R. O'Brien, Southern Baptist music missionary to Indonesia
- 10:45 Message—Vander Warner, pastor, Grove Avenue Baptist Church, Richmond, Va.
- 11:10 Congregational Singing
- 11:15 Offertory Prayer—Eugene Phillips, pastor, University Baptist Church, Peoria, Ill.
- Music—Youth Choir, First Baptist Church, Houston, Gerald Ray, director
- 11:30 Message—Jess Moody, pastor, First Baptist Church, West Palm Beach, Fla.
- 12:00 Benediction—C. Wade Freeman, director, Evangelism Division, Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas

Afternoon Session

- 1:45 Music—Youth Choir, First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla., Aubie McSwain, director
- 2:00 Congregational singing
- 2:05 Invocation—W. T. Furr, pastor, Queensborough Baptist Church, Shreveport, La.
- 2:07 Special music
- 2:10 Message—Adrian Rogers, pastor, First Baptist Church, Merritt Island, Fla.
- 2:30 Congregational singing
- 2:35 Message—Jerry Autrey, Friendswood, Tex.
- 2:40 Min-Concert—Miss Cynthia Clawson, Houston
- 3:10 Message—Charles Graves, pastor, Nichols Hills Baptist Church, Oklahoma City
- 3:30 Offertory Prayer—William Wallace, pastor, Flint Groves Baptist Church, Gastonia, N. C.
- 3:35 Election of Officers
- 3:45 Music—Youth Choir of Urban Park Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex.; Ashley L. Huey, director
- 3:55 Message—James Coggin, pastor, Travis Avenue Baptist Church, Fort Worth
- 4:15 Benediction—Joe Ingram, executive secretary, Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City

Evening Session

- 7:00 Concert—Combined Youth Choirs of First Baptist Church, Houston; First Southern Baptist Church, Del City, Okla.; and Urban Park Baptist Church, Dallas
- 7:10 Congregational Singing
- 7:15 Invocation—Harvey Kneisel, director of ministries, First Baptist Church, Houston
- 7:17 Message—Doug Tipps, Conroe, Tex.
- 7:45 Presentation of New Officers
- 7:50 Congregational singing
- 7:55 Message—Richard Hogue, evangelist, Houston
- 8:20 Offertory Prayer—Felix Wagner, secretary of evangelism, Baptist Convention of New Mexico, Albuquerque
- 8:25 Combined Youth Choirs in Concert
- 8:40 Solo—Bettye Stalnecker, evangelistic singer, Lake Charles, La.
- 8:45 Message—R. G. Lee, pastor emeritus, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis
- 9:30 Benediction—Roy McClung, president, Wayland Baptist College, Plainview, Tex.



Dr. E. J. Daniels To Preach In Hinds County Crusade

Most churches of many denominations in Hinds County and surrounding areas are joining hands in the HINDS COUNTY CRUSADE FOR CHRIST, April 16-23.

This CRUSADE will be conducted nightly in a canvas cathedral to be located on the practice field of Hinds Junior College, Raymond. Nightly services will be at 7:30, with pre-crusade programs for children and youth at 7:00.

The E. J. Daniels Evangelistic Team, with international headquarters in Orlando, Florida, has been invited to conduct this crusade.

The talented ventriloquist, Geraldine Murray and "Ricky" will be there every night.

Musicians for the Crusade are Ferrell Brakefield and John Bos. Brakefield, music director for the Daniels

Kentucky Governor Vetoes Tax Credits

FRANKFORT, Ky. (C-SNS) — Kentucky Gov. Wendell H. Ford vetoed yesterday a bill which would have diverted approximately \$4 million to parochial and private elementary and secondary schools in the state through state income tax credits.

In vetoing the tax credit measure Gov. Ford indicated that it would deprive the state of about \$4 million annually and lead to an indeterminate number of violations of law by persons improperly claiming tax credits.

The tax credit measure was opposed mainly by the Kentucky chapters of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. Mrs. Gayle Van Deren, president of the state federation of Americans United chapters, hailed the governor's veto as "a great victory for religious liberty, church-state separation, and public education because this bill would have compelled all Kentucky taxpayers to help support sectarian private schools."

Americans United and other groups are currently testing in the Minnesota courts a tax credit program for providing tax aid for parochial and private schools.

A large scale national battle over tax credits to aid parochial schools is shaping up with the recent introduction of tax credit bills in Congress and in state legislatures. President Nixon's Commission on School Finance recently recommended federal income tax credits to aid parochial schools.

Enactment of proposed federal income tax credits for parochial and private school tuition would cost U. S. taxpayers about \$2.24 billion annually to start. Subsequent increases in the amount of the credits could cost taxpayers more than \$5 billion annually, a figure several times higher than the cost of absorbing all non-public students into public schools. Tax credits of only \$50 per parochial student per year, if approved by all state legislatures, would cost state taxpayers about \$280 million annually to start.

REVIVAL RESULTS

Derby Church, Poplarville: March 4-10; "Strength for Living Revival Crusade"; 15 professions of faith, 3 additions by letter; 49 rededications; Rev. John E. Smith of Hanahan, S. C., Charleston, S. C., and Rev. C. E. "Buck" Jones of Columbus, Ga., musicians; Rev. Jim Waller, pastor.

Good Hope Church, Purvis: March 26 - 29; 3 professions of faith, 2 additions by letter, 13 rededications; Rev. Jim Waller, of Poplarville, evangelist; Bill McClelland music director; Dr. B. Frank Smith, pastor.

Parkway, Jackson: April 16 - 23; Vince Cervera, evangelist from Greenville, South Carolina, preaching; (Mr. Cervera, one of the most sought after evangelists in the United States, was born in New Orleans, La. and was called to preach while he was still a teenager. For the past fifteen years he has traveled an average of 50,000 miles each year.) Services 7:30 p.m. (Monday through Saturday); 7:00 a.m. (Tuesday through Friday); Dr. Bill Causey, pastor.

Cooperative Program Gifts Increase Nine Per Cent In March

NASHVILLE (BP) — Contributions through the Southern Baptist Convention's Cooperative Program unified budget increased by nine per cent during the month of March, boosting gifts to a record level compared to the first quarter of 1971.

For the first three months of 1972, Cooperative Program gifts totalled \$8,072,629, an increase of \$155,964 compared to the \$7,916,664 contributed in the first quarter of 1971.

In addition to the record \$8,072,629 contributed through the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptists also gave \$16,492,732 in designated contributions to special missions causes during the first quarter of the year. Designated gifts were up \$1,140,855 or 7.43 per cent compared to the \$15.3 million in 1971.

The grand total, Cooperative Program plus designated gifts, reached \$24,565,361 for the three-month period, an increase of \$1,296,819, or 5.57 per cent over the \$23.2 million contributed to national mission causes in the first quarter of 1971.

During the month of March, a 9.52 per cent increase in Cooperative Program giving helped boost the total for the quarter to an increase, whereas last month, the total was running 1.5 per cent lower than the total for the previous year.

During the month of March, Cooperative Program contributions totalled \$2,747,848, an increase of \$238,944 compared to the March 1971 gifts of \$2.5 million.

Designated gifts during March also increased from \$3.4 million in March 1971 to \$3,833,868 in March 1972, an increase of \$350,210, or 10.05 per cent.

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

EDITORIAL

Mississippi College Campaign Is Challenge

Mississippi College, Mississippi Baptists' oldest and largest institution of higher learning, is in the midst of a campaign to raise \$3,000,000. This money is to be used for erecting two new buildings, for the enlargement of the library, and for strengthening the endowment program of the school.

The institution deserves the liberal support of all Mississippi Baptists as it strives to achieve this goal. The campaign offers a challenge to every Baptist.

Few institutions in Southern Baptist life have a longer or more illustrious history than does Mississippi College. The school was chartered in 1826, so will celebrate its 150th anniversary in just four years. It did not, however, become Baptist until 1850, so is now in its 122nd year as a Baptist institution. Almost immediately after it was acquired by our denomination it began to experience unprecedented growth, and by 1860, with 228 students, it was the largest such institution in the state, and the third largest Baptist college in the South.

The war years, 1861-1865, brought tragic days to the institution, as well

as to all Mississippians, and save for the heroic efforts of some noble souls the school would have perished during those dark years. However, it did survive, and after the war, began to move forward once more, and has continued its growth and service until this very day. All of its years have not been easy, but long ago it moved into a period of tremendous service to both the denomination and the state as a whole, and its contribution has been outstanding.

At no time in its history has Mississippi College reached greater heights than where it stands right now. And its very achievement brings opportunities and challenges such as the institution and its sponsoring denomination never have faced before. With well over 2,000 students entering its doors each year, and with hundreds of graduates marching forth from its halls at each graduation time to serve the world and their God, with trained minds and dedicated lives, the institution is fulfilling its destiny even beyond the dreams of its founders and supporters in years now gone by.

Mississippi College has proved that an institution does not have to sell its

soul to secularism nor abandon its Christian principles in order to provide quality education. Its school is offering training that matches the best to be found anywhere, yet, at the same time, is providing a plus of a Christian atmosphere and Christian spirit, which simply give better preparation for life and its responsibilities. Not every graduate of Mississippi College has gone out to make outstanding Christian record, but many of them have, that the institution is proof beyond dispute of the value of a Christian atmosphere on the campus and in the classroom.

It is because of what the institution is, and what it needs to be in this hour, that this Challenge program has been set up, and Mississippians must rally in full and sacrificial support to the campaign. Gifts to this program are gifts to the multitudes of young people, whose lives will be shaped by this institution. From the school they will come, prepared in mind and heart, to serve the church, the communities, the state, the nation and the world.

Beginning in this issue of the Record we are carrying a series of articles concerning Mississippi College by one of the school's most illustrious alumni, Dr. Chester Swor. Few men in America have a better understanding of, or closer touch with modern youth, and perhaps few men have a better comprehension of what Christian education needs to be today. We hope you will read these articles, and hat you will pray earnestly concerning what God wants you to do in this campaign.

Church Library Week

Next week, April 16-22, is National Library Week, and the Southern Baptist Convention, it's Church Library Emphasis Week.

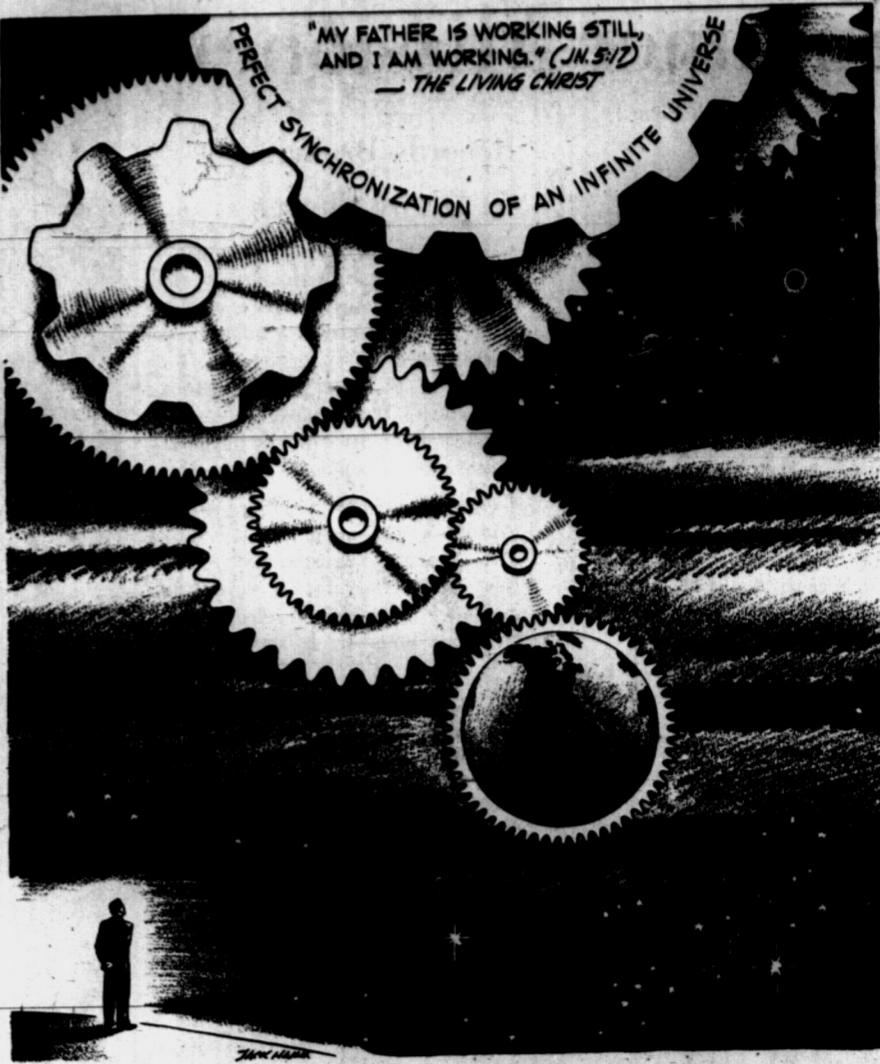
All of us realize the value of good books, and through library programs, thousands of Southern Baptist churches are bringing to their people a splendid selection of good books, old and new. Many of the better libraries, also provide recordings, tapes, and other communication media, for use by individuals, departments and classes in their churches.

The Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention long ago realized the value of good church libraries, and set up a department just to promote that work. Dr. Wayne E. Todd, former Mississippian, who now heads up the Library Department for the Sunday School Board, says, "It is our goal to have a planned, cared for library in every Southern Baptist church." To see how effective the department has been, one need only check on the libraries now found in thousands of churches.

Here in Mississippi a Baptist Church Library Association, is in the process of being formed, and will add its strength to the SBC program to place a good library in every church.

We hope that your church will observe Library Week, and that many Baptists who may not have visited the Church Library in a long time, will take time during the coming week, to visit the library, see what it has to offer, and even borrow a book.

Well read members are better informed members in our churches, and we urge you to use your church library to help you be better informed.



Almighty Wheels in the Affairs of Men

THE BAPTIST FORUM

Gives Dates For Next Schools Of The Prophets

Dear Dr. Odie:

Thank you for helping us promote our Second Annual School of the Prophets taught by the pastor and staff of our First Baptist Church in Dallas.

Over 300 men were in attendance, representing 28 different states all the way from New York to Washington State and from Florida to California. It was a God-blessed time together.

For the information of many of your constituents who are writing and asking, we are announcing the dates for the next two Schools of the Prophets:

March 12-18 1973
March 11-17 1974
W. A. Criswell, Pastor
FBC, Dallas, Texas

Wants To See Great Sermons Published

Dear Bro. Odie:

I appreciate your editorials so much in the Record, I consider you as fundamentally true to the Scriptures.

It thrilled me several months back when you said that you would be publishing sermons by different former great preachers. Among some great ones you mentioned was C. H. Spurgeon which I consider one of the greatest of them. However, I have not as yet seen any appearing. Specially Spurgeon, don't let any of the liberals talk you out of printing some of his. I know one liberal in our denomination who tries to downgrade his influence. This man surely did not impress me any.

Brother Odie, I can't recall a single liberal to my thinking who is a soulwinner. So don't permit any of them to influence you. Keep speaking out the truth like you have in the past.

F. W. Varner
608 Bigelow Drive
Chesterfield, Mo. 63017

On The MORAL SCENE...

The typical American woman: (1) Is still unsympathetic to women's liberation groups but now favors efforts to improve women's status. (2) Isn't herself politically active but thinks the country would be better off if women had more to say about politics. (3) Is "very satisfied" with her life and thinks that raising children properly "takes as much intelligence and drive as holding a top position in business or government". (4) Believes that this country's top-priority problems are ending the Vietnam war and curbing drug abuse. (5) Thinks a woman President would be less likely to take the United States into war but believes the country won't be ready for a woman President for more than a decade. (6) Believers that women in public office can be as logical and rational as men. These are among the findings of an extensive, privately commissioned survey reported presently by Louis Harris and Associates.—By J. V. Reistrup, Washington Post, 3-24-72.

Pollution and Drinking Water — Those ads for home remedies for polluted home drinking water may be misleading. Many faucet filters and bottle water products may actually increase pollutants rather than decrease them. According to the executive director of the American Water Works Association, which represents 30,000 water suppliers in the U. S. and Canada, do-it-yourself water purifiers, especially those that are attached to a faucet where they are within easy range of sink splashes, are more likely to contaminate water than purify it. Such filters are said to be a potential health hazard by turning into a breeding ground for bacteria, rather than actually filtering out bacteria. Tests at Georgetown University showed that the bacteria count for bottled water varied greatly among the available brands. — (Everybody's Money, Spring '72)

A Woman's World Reaches Far Beyond the Ironing Board

Wilda Fancher

Revival announcements are being made in newspapers and from pulpits all over creation, at least, the part of it that's Mississippi. Most of us look at our families overstuffed schedules and wonder where the revival can be squeezed. We gauge our energies and wonder if they measure enough.

Under such circumstances, what ought a Mama do about a revival week?

Very simple. She should give it priority. What's a revival for? To win the unsaved and to lift the spirits of the saved seem to be two inclusive enough categories, don't you think?

Rarely ever does a revival sneak up on a family — it's usually announced months ahead of time, long enough for the whole bunch to be prepared. This is where the watchful eye and guiding hand of the Mama in the family come in. We keep up with all the important things for them, don't we? Like dental appointments, music lessons, ball games, dozens of places to be and things to do. We make sure the proper uniforms and apparel for each occasion are ready. We make sure transportation is at their disposal. Meals are shuffled around when necessary.

If our children have responsibilities at school or on the job, we help them to remember to discharge those responsibilities. We do all we can to help them understand the value and importance of all they're doing.

Why should revival week be different?

I mean, why should we watch over their medical, school, social, and working activities so carefully but let their spiritual needs slide, especially when an important activity like a revival has been planned for them?

Children in a Christian home need to be taught to value planning adequately for spiritual needs, as for other needs, and to discipline themselves to follow through on those plans.

It is by both precept and example that a mother teaches her family such values. She and her family decide before the week arrives that revival is the priority item, even if there are very small children. One week of a different routine will not hurt a baby or toddler whose parents have been doing their homework well. Children learn early what their parents deem important.

Nothing is quite so eternal as a person's relationship with God. Relationships with dentists, teachers, coaches, relatives and friends are very temporary, but the one with God keeps on giving.

We may be exhausted by the end of revival week, but don't we usually sit down exhausted after most of the important events in our lives?

That's when resting is sweetest. — Address: Box 9151, Jackson, 31206.

There was this honest young man who told us, "The reason I wear long hair and a beard is because I have an ugly face."

The Baptist Record

515 Mississippi Street

Jackson, Miss. 39201

Editor
Joe Abrams Associate Editor
Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate
William H. Sellers Bus. Manager

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CONVENTION BOARD

W. Douglas Hudgins Executive Secretary
The Baptist Building
Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205

Baptist Record Advisory Committee: Kelly Dampier, Charleston; Paul H. Lester, Moss Point; G. O. Parker, Meridian; Bob Russell, Tupelo; Purser Hewitt, Jackson; Hardy Denham, Newton.

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Heyday For History Buffs!

(Continued From Page 1)

find complete minutes of every associational meeting held in the state since that time.

The old minutes, along with the minutes of various churches, charters and other valuable items are stored in a walk-in, fire proof vault. The vault, itself, is interesting to study.

Microfilmed copies of the Baptist Record from the first issue in 1877 to 1898 are available, while actual copies of the denominational paper from 1898 to the present are bound for reference and study.

Catalogs and other vital and historical information relating to Baptist-owned colleges and institutions in the state are also kept on file.

There is a color painting of the first Baptist church organized in the state — the Clear Creek Baptist Church located in Washington, Miss. Organized in 1812 and constructed in 1828, the church was the place where the Mississippi Baptist Convention was organized in 1836.

Located in one of the glass showcases in the Commission quarters is a model of the first Corona typewriter ever built. It was used in France during World War I by the late Dr. J. L. Boyd, longtime Commission director. He also used it to type the manuscript for his book, *A Popular History of Baptists in Mississippi*, published in 1930.

Also in the showcase is one of the original Sacred Harp Hymn Books, several old Bibles and a number of other interesting artifacts.

The collection of Baptist historical records was first originated by Mrs. Adelia M. Hillman, wife of the founder of Hillman College, back in 1888. Hillman was an all-female college later absorbed by Mississippi College.

Dr. Boyd, curator of the collection from 1926 until his death in 1967, did the majority of the collecting and expanded the library to include complete files of all denominational records relating to associational and church meetings.

Dr. R. A. McLemore, president emeritus of Mississippi College and currently director of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, served as executive secretary of the Commission for several years following an interim filled by Rev. Reid Dickens.

Dr. McLemore's book, *A History of Mississippi Baptists from 1780 - 1970*, is one of the latest additions to the Commission shelves.

BROTHER OF

Chester L. Quarles Dies In Alabama

Vernon Hugh Quarles, 70, last surviving brother of the late Chester L. Quarles, died in Troy, Alabama, on April 3. Funeral services were in Troy on Tuesday, April 4.

Quarles was one of two brothers of Dr. Chester L. Quarles, who served as Executive Secretary of Mississippi Baptists from 1950 to 1968. Of the four brothers only a sister survives.

Vernon Quarles was born in Wiggins, Miss. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Ethel Quarles, two daughters and eight grandchildren. Also surviving is the sister, Mrs. E. E. Montgomery of Decatur, Ga.



Dr. Eugene I. Farr, executive secretary of the Mississippi Baptist Historical Commission located in the Leland Speed Library at Mississippi College, shows off some of the artifacts that are part of the Commission collection. This particular case holds a model of the first Corona typewriters, a Sacred Harp Hymn Book, old Bibles and other items. (M. C. Photo by Bill Strange)

Clergy Economic Conference to Be Held May 22-23

The fifth Annual Clergy Economic Education Conference is scheduled for May 22-23, at the Holiday Inn West in Jackson, according to Dr. J. Clark Hensley, executive director of the Christian Action Commission.

The conference will be under direction of Jack C. Wimberly of the University of Southern Mississippi, and is free to clergymen who make proper application.

The conference is not an indoctrination program but an examination of basic economic principles upon which informed judgment may be based. "On the basis of my personal experience as a participant, I commend these conferences as worthy investment of time and a unique learning experience with a mini-major in Economics," Dr. Hensley stated.

Application may be made to Jack C. Wimberly, University of Southern Mississippi, Southern Station, Box 72, Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401.

3 Churches Receive Highest Church Training Award

Pearl, Harmony and Oakland Churches of Rankin, Winston, and Alcorn Associations respectively, have attained the highest recognition in Church Training during the month of March by qualifying for Distinguished Recognition in the use of the Church Training Achievement Guide, according to Kermitt S. King, Mississippi Church Training Department Director.

Gene Williams is the director of Church Training in Pearl Church while J. D. Gregory and A. O. Geisler, Jr. serve as directors of the Harmony and Oakland Churches. Rev. Carl Talbert is pastor at Pearl and Rev. Julian West is pastor at Oakland.

Rounding out the first half of the church year, in addition to these three churches attaining Distinguished Recognition, Pineview and Bellehaven Churches of Jackson Association attained Advanced Recognition while North Calvary, Neshoba Association; Kregle Church, Jackson Association; Belden Church, Lee Association; and Coffeeville, First, of Yalobusha Association attained Merit Recognition.

Six churches of Jackson Association have qualified for either Merit or Advanced Recognition in the use of the Achievement Guide, according to Mr. King. David Priddy serves as the associational Church Training Director, and Rev. Zeno Wells as superintendent of missions of this association.

Sourcebook 72-73 Available Only At Baptist Book Stores

NASHVILLE — "Sourcebook 72-73, A Digest of Projects, Plans, and Curriculum Units," is now available in Baptist book stores. The item is not available on church literature order forms.

This item is for planning and reference, containing notations of all items of worship, outreach, missions, stewardship, ministry, administration and education available to churches during the church year 1972-73.

Cost is \$3.25 per copy.



Water From Christ's Day

ATLANTA — This bottle contains water which originally fell as snow on Antarctica in approximately the year Christ was born. It was obtained by melting ice cores sent to the U.S. BY THE Naval Support Force, Antarctica.

Three five-foot cores were brought up from a depth of 842 to 857 feet, which, according to scientific calculation, almost certainly contains molecules of ice which fell as snow during the year of Christ's birth. Drilling operations were done by the U. S. Army's Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory as part of cores which produced this water were not needed for scientific analysis.

The cores were obtained by Rear Admiral J. W. Kelly, then Chief of Naval Chaplains. He has since retired and is now Director of Chaplaincy Services for the Southern Baptist Convention's Home Mission Board in Atlanta. — (RNS Photo)

Cost is \$3.25 per copy.

The Commission is currently under the direction of Dr. Eugene I. Farr, an ordained Baptist minister and professor emeritus of education at Mississippi College.

Dr. Edwin Robinson, former Mississippi Women's Missionary Union secretary, is also employed by the Commission, and is currently involved in indexing all Baptist Records from 1877 to the present, for research purposes.



Dr. Edwin Robinson, former Mississippi Women's Missionary Union secretary, shows off some of the artifacts that are part of the Commission collection. This particular case holds a model of the first Corona typewriters, a Sacred Harp Hymn Book, old Bibles and other items. (M. C. Photo by Bill Strange)

BAPTISTS -- BEFORE 1845

Baptist Contribution To Freedom

Dick H. Hall, Jr.
Pastor Emeritus
First Baptist Church,
Decatur, Ga.

(Last in a series of four articles)

Baptists are glad to recognize that they were not alone in their fight for freedom in America. Dr. J. M. Dawson cites the part played by Presbyterians, Quakers, Catholics, Episcopalians and men such as Thomas Paine, Benjamin Franklin, and Stephen Girard, in the struggle to achieve and maintain separation of Church and State in the country.

However, Baptists should be proud of the fact that this doctrine of liberty is a part of the warp and woof of Baptist life. The Baptist distinctive is the doctrine of soul freedom. Correlative to that tenet is the principle of separation of Church and State. Baptists have never persecuted people for their beliefs nor have they asked for preferential recognition or state support — at least not until recently.

In the previous article something of the picture of Baptist struggles in America was attempted. These struggles often were matters of survival, generally they had to do with the principle of soul liberty.

With humble pride, then, let us look at the Baptist contribution to our freedom in the United States. Men like Roger Williams, John Clarke, Isaac Backus and John Leland, wrote their names large on the pages of this history.

Warren L. Johns, a Seventh Day Adventist, in his book *Date-line Sunday, U.S.A.*, says, "What George Washington was to the political future of his country, Roger Williams was to religious liberty in America — it's father."

William A. Carleton (*Baptist Advance*) says, "A. H. Newman affirms that Williams has the distinction of being the first to introduce believers' baptism in the New World. He organized the first Baptist Church on the continent and it was he who established the first state ever formed on the principle of absolute liberty of conscience". He provided for a separation of Church and State at a time when there was no historical example of such a government."

Williams was banished from Massachusetts in 1635 because he preached that men should not be compelled to belong to a church or to attend worship services, that civil authority has no right to deal in matters of conscience and that only believers should be baptized.

His life was saved by the kindly Narragansett Indians in the winter of 1635. Williams bought land from them and established the town of Providence in 1636. Here his family joined him, along with others. His second child, a daughter, was born here. They named her "Free-born." The colony was set up with the provision that a t o become a citizen of Rhode Island one must sign a compact that the government would have authority "only in civil things."

Dawson says, "None can possibly refute Ernst's conclusion that in the Rhode Island constitution adopted we have prefigured the future constitutions of the United States and the several states, by its political principles, its preamble, bill of rights, and body of civil and criminal law."

Clarke Left England

John Clarke, whose name

Armstrong says, "must be written beside that of Roger Williams," left England to find freedom of conscience in 1637. He arrived in Boston in time to witness the persecution of Anne Hutchinson, mother of fourteen children, whose "crime" was to have gatherings in her home on Thursday evenings for the purpose of Scripture reading and discussion. (She joined Williams' Providence community in 1638.)

Clarke left Boston after one year and, with several others, joined Roger Williams. The town of Newport was founded by Clarke, where they constituted in 1640 the second Baptist Church in the New World. Clarke was its pastor until his death in 1676.

In order to secure a permanent charter for Rhode Island, Clarke went to England in 1651. He hoped to receive satisfaction from Oliver Cromwell, who had been supported by Baptists in England. But Clarke could interest no one in the government in the cause of dissenters so far away, Clarke supported himself for those twelve years of waiting by the practice of medicine.

Charles II returned to power in 1658. Finally in 1663, Clarke received the charter for the colony of Rhode Island, granting complete religious liberty to all.

It is well to remind ourselves that wars are won by soldiers. The ablest general is helpless without soldiers to execute his plans. And leaders in any movement must have convinced and dedicated followers to support them. "Trust God and tell the people" was the motto of Dr. J. B. Lawrence, long secretary of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board. Convincing Baptists make possible all our denominational progress. Our Baptist polity makes it right and necessary that the rank and file of us become informed and vocal on vital issues.

It was the General Committee of Virginia Baptists which in October 1785 petitioned the government against a proposed tax to support teachers of religion. They said in part, "That every person ought to be left entirely free in respect to matters of religion; That the Holy Author of our religion needs no such compulsory measures for the promotion of His cause; That the Gospel wants not the feeble arm of man for its support; That is has made, and will again through Divine power make its way against opposition, and that should the Legislature assume the right of taxing the people for the support of the Gospel, it will be restrictive of religious liberty."

Those devout Baptists felt it to be out of keeping that the Bride of Christ be dependent on the power of the state for support. To them the dignity of the Church was such that She should expect support only from those who love Her.

Two other names must be mentioned in any discussion of Baptists and their contribution to freedom in the United States: Isaac Backus and John Leland.

William A. Carleton quotes William Henry Allison as saying, "No individual in America since Roger Williams stands out so pre-eminently as the champion of religious liberty as does Isaac Backus." Carleton says, "As important as was Leland's contribution to the cause of religious freedom, that made by Isaac Backus (1724 - 1806) was even greater."

Converted in 1741, Isaac Backus joined the First Congregational Church in Norwich, Connecticut. Soon he and his mother and

other relatives joined the Separatist Church in Norwich. In September 1746 he began to preach. In 1751 he was immersed and on June 23, 1756 he was ordained as pastor of the First Baptist Church in Middletown. He led New England Baptists in the creation of the Warren Baptist Association in 1767.

Backus Is Chosen

J. M. Dawson says, "In September, 1772, The Warren Association of Baptist Churches chose him (Backus) to be their agent in behalf of their liberties. For more than ten years he served with a committee of eight in this capacity, writing appeals, sending petitions to the general court of Massachusetts, and keeping the Baptists in the other colonies and those in England informed of the persecutions which Baptists in Massachusetts were undergoing at the hands of a state church." William G. McLaughlin is editor of a book of "Pamphlets" by Backus, 1754-1789, containing twelve pamphlets and other writings, pages 65 to 487.

In 1774 Backus and James Manning had a conference with the Massachusetts delegates to the First Continental Congress in Philadelphia. In the stormy session John Adams told them, "We might as soon expect a change in the solar system as to expect that they would give up their establishment."

McLaughlin says that Robert Treat Paine (one of the delegates) returned to Massachusetts to spread the rumor that Backus and the Quakers had deliberately tried to sabotage the Continental Congress by causing a division among them on the trumped up issue of religious liberty."

Backus' memorial was read before the Continental Congress, which passed a resolution dated December 12, 1774, "that the establishment of civil and religious liberty, to each denomination in the province, is the sincere wish of this Congress," but the resolution went on to say that the Congress was not vested with powers of civil government.

Backus died in 1806. It was 1833 before Massachusetts finally granted full religious liberty. Armstrong says, "Dr. Backus had planted among Baptists and others the seed of a political principle, deeply imbedded in the rich soil of his religious faith, that in a Union of States the rights of all citizens must be equally guaranteed. From that seed flowered the words of the Fourteenth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States: 'no state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges and immunities of citizens of the United States, nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law.'"

Those devout Baptists felt it to be out of keeping that the Bride of Christ be dependent on the power of the state for support. To them the dignity of the Church was such that She should expect support only from those who love Her.

Two other names must be mentioned in any discussion of Baptists and their contribution to freedom in the United States: Isaac Backus and John Leland.

William A. Carleton quotes William Henry Allison as saying, "No individual in America since Roger Williams stands out so pre-eminently as the champion of religious liberty as does Isaac Backus." Carleton says, "As important as was Leland's contribution to the cause of religious freedom, that made by Isaac Backus (1724 - 1806) was even greater."

When the Constitution of the United States was offered to the states for ratification, Leland led Baptists in opposing it. The Article VI read: "...but no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office of public trust under the

United States." Leland felt that this was not a sufficient guarantee of complete religious liberty.

Encouraged by fellow Baptists, Leland announced as candidate for the ratification Convention. James Madison also sought the office. He visited Leland, who convinced him that further religious liberty safeguards were needed. On his promise to present these views to Congress, Leland withdrew and supported Madison. The next year, 1789, Madison presented the Bill of Rights to the first Congress and it was passed. The first of the ten Amendments read: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

Became Foundation Stone

It took 153 years (1636 - 1789) for Roger Williams' conviction on soul freedom to become one of the foundation stones of the American government. The freedom with which Christ had endowed men was at last a legal right. Baptists had had great pride in this achievement.

Dr. E. Y. Mullins in his *The Axioms of Religion*, says, "There is no evidence that Baptists came to their view of soul freedom and separation of Church and State gradually. There is nowhere a wavering note on this great theme. It seems to have been divinely given prophetic insight into the meaning of the gospel and the implicit teaching of Scripture. Mark the phrase, implicit teaching. For Scripture nowhere enjoins in so many words separation of Church and State. It required a spiritual discernment to discover the doctrine, prophetic insight of a high order, and yet when once discovered by the unbiased mind, it was accepted as a self-evident truth."

On the Capitol steps in Washington on May 16, 1920, Dr. George W. Truett summed up the attitude of Baptists up to that time concerning the use of tax money for religious purposes. He said, "It is the consistent and insistent contention of our Baptist people, always, and everywhere, that religion must be forever voluntary and uncoerced, and that it is not the prerogative of any power, whether civil or ecclesiastical, to compel men to conform to any religious creed or form of worship, or to pay taxes for the support of a religious organization to which they do not belong and in whose creed they do not believe."

"Never anywhere, in any clime, has a true Baptist been willing, for one minute, for the union of church and state, never for a moment."

A study of the minutes of the Southern Baptist Convention, 1845 to 1971, will show that we have held firmly and consistently through the years, to our doctrine of soul freedom and the principle of separation of Church and State.

Let Dr. Truett's plea be our present challenge and our warning for tomorrow. He said, "And now, my fellow Christians and fellow citizens, what is the present call to us in connection with the priceless principle of religious liberty? That principle with all the history and heritage accompanying it, imposes upon us obligations to the last degree meaningful and responsible. Let us today and forever be highly resolved that the principle of religious liberty shall, please God, be preserved inviolate through all our days, and the days of those who come after us."



Missions Fair On Parking Lot In Baytown, Texas

Baytown, Texas experienced its first Missions Fair recently. Trying to answer the question, "What in the world are Baptists Doing?", it was the first fair of its kind to communicate missions to the general public. Sponsored by the San Jacinto Baptist Association, the three-day fair featured 16 booths showing local, state,

home and foreign mission work. Mack Smoke, area missionary, estimated that more than 2500 people visited the tent which was set up on a local department store parking lot, and that the fair definitely communicated the gospel. — (Home Board Photo)

Names In

The News

C. H. "Pop" Stone, minister of music, East Howard, Biloxi, is music evangelist for the revival at First Church, Troy, Tenn., April 10-16. Rev. T. C. Thurman, the church's pastor, is the evangelist.

Mary Frank Kirkpatrick, missionary who has completed furlough, is scheduled to leave April 18 for Nigeria (address: PMB 513, Ibadan, Nigeria). Miss Kirkpatrick, a native of Noxapater, Miss., was appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1955.



R. D. McLendon, president, Northwest Mississippi Junior College, was guest speaker for the Brotherhood meeting March 13 at First Church, Senatobia. From left above are Howard Carpenter, president of the Senatobia Brotherhood; Sanford Powell, program chairman; Mr. McLendon; and C. R. Rials, lay leader. Mr. McLendon talked on Christian leadership on a world-wide basis.



Missionary to Bangladesh, BMC guest accompanied by the Rev. Arthur Lesley, Superintendent of Missions for Marshall-Lafayette Counties Baptist Association, center, Rev. James Young, right, missionary to Bangladesh, now on furlough, addressed the Blue Mountain College assembly recently concerning his work, the people, their customs, the need for nurses in his foreign mission area, and modeled the regular men's clothing as he spoke. Front, center, is Sandra Perez, Blue Mountain sophomore from Puerto Rico, foster daughter of the late Albert Casteel, missionary to Puerto Rico, modeling the native dress of a young Muslim teenager, while Dr. Harold Fisher, BMC president, watches the placing of the head dress. Mr. Young's furlough address is Route 1, Sallis, Mississippi.

Rev. Robert Self and Rev. James Shumate recently moved from pastorate in Jasper Association, to other pastorate, Self going to Gulf Coast Association and Shumate going to Pearl River Association. Jasper Association, Mrs. Davis Gardner, clerk, has sent letters of commendation to the men's new places of service. In part, the letters stated: "Rev. Robert Self served in a number of capacities in Jasper County, including one year as Convention Board member. His ministry brought much to his church and to all who came to know him." Rev. James Shumate served two Jasper churches as pastor and

led each in many improvements, as well as serving the association in a number of capacities, endearing him to many."

Dr. John Haggard, President of Evangelism International, headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia and Singapore, was greeted upon his arrival in the Far East by the leaders of the Japanese Church at banquet given in his honor by Dr. Bob Pierce, Founder of World Vision, at the famed New Otani Hotel in Tokyo.

Rev. Scott trained to become a professional athlete and was bitterly disappointed when illness curtailed his career. "The King of Country Music," who will be

featured in the scrapbook section of "Country Crossroads" during April, talks about his life in showbusiness, shares his philosophy of entertaining live audiences and discusses his early career, his family and his collection of show business memorabilia. He shares Christianity's meaning for his life. Also heard on "Country Crossroads" during April will be Jerry Clower, Yazoo City, who talks about "Marcell's Talkin' Chain Saw" and some of his own Christian experiences. "Country Crossroads," a weekly half-hour program produced by the SBC Radio-Television Commission, now is heard on 390 stations.

Ralph Wilson "Chip" Turner, associate pastor of First Church, Summit and student at New Orleans Seminary, was ordained into the gospel ministry at Highland church, Shreveport, La., April 5. The Highland church is Mr. Turner's home church. He is a graduate of Louisiana College and is married to the former Sandra Aymond of Baton Rouge, La.

He has served in his present position at Summit since September 1971. His pastor, Rev. Larry W. Fields, traveled to Shreveport to take part in the service.

Tim Penland, former creative broadcasting director for William Cook Advertising Co., Jacksonville, Fla., has joined the Radio and Television, as a television producer.

Penland has 13 years experience in television production, having begun at KTUL-TV in Tulsa, Okla., where he served as cameraman, learned lighting, picture composition, and other "tools of the trade."

You learn something new every day—and on Monday (March 20) the R. H. Walkers of Jackson, Miss., and the Thomas W. Garretts of Columbus, Ga., learned they could, too, tour the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission's building in Fort Worth. The two couples were in the city to visit the Walker's son, Bobby, and the Garrett's daughter, Carole, both students at Southwestern Seminary. The Walkers and the Garretts had become close friends when Bobby Walker was stationed in Columbus with the Army and attended Edgewood Baptist Church where he met the Garrett family. "This was our first real visit to Fort Worth and we had no idea we could tour the Radio and TV Commission," said Mr. Garrett. "We were driving by, saw the beautiful building and on the spur of the moment decided to come in and ask." Their tour guide, Mrs. Melynda Wester, is the daughter-in-law of a former pastor in Brookhaven, Miss., Rev. Brooks H. Wester, now pastor at First Baptist Church in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. The Walkers, who are active members of Parkway Baptist Church in Jackson, were particularly impressed with the fact that the Commission is able to "do so much with so few people."

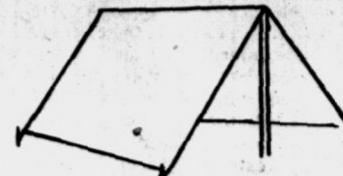


Dumas Church (Tippah County) has ordained Danny Wayne Bullock to the gospel ministry. Danny, at right, recently accepted the call as pastor of Lebanon Church (Tippah County). He is a senior at Blue Mountain College. Rev. Billy W. Baker, pastor, left, brought the ordination sermon. Dr. James L. Travis, professor of Bible at Blue Mountain College, led in the ordination prayer; Rev. Rex Yancey pastor of Brewer Church (Lee), brought the charge to the church; Rev. Jimmy Gore, pastor of Buntyn Street Church, Memphis, Tenn., brought the charge to the candidate. Special music was rendered by Billy W. Baker and Peggy Davis. A leather copy of THE LIVING BIBLE was presented on behalf of the church by the pastor.

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Public Is Invited To Hospital's

"Student Night" Talent Show

The public is invited to "Student Night" at Mississippi Baptist Hospital April 20, including a talent show and beauty pageant.

Participating will be students of the hospital's educational programs for practical nurses, inhalation therapists and radiological technicians, as well as the students of the Mississippi College School of Nursing.

In all, well over 100 students will take part in the "Student Night" starting at 6:30 p.m. in the amphitheatre of the hospital's Gilfoy building, according to Miss Kathy Bearden, director of student activities.

Hospital administrator Paul J. Pryor will introduce winners in the students' competition for the titles of "Most Beautiful," "Mr. Baptist Hospital" and "Miss Baptist Hospital" who will be revealed for the first time.

Gene Rester, x-ray technician for

the hospital's cardiovascular unit, will serve as the master of ceremonies.

"The students will be featured in a variety of acts and skits and folk singing," said Miss Bearden. "It will be a family-type program, and we invite friends of the hospital to attend and meet all out students."

Tickets are one dollar for adults and 50 cents for those twelve years of age and under.

Ellisville State Choir
To Sing At Union Church

Ellisville State School Choir will conduct the worship service at Union Church on Sunday, April 16. The church is located seven miles south of Richton or six miles north of Beaumont. Invitations have been issued to the public. Sunday school will be at 10 and worship service at 11. Rev. R. F. Moore is pastor.

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Revival Dates

Unity Church (Jackson Co.) April 16-21; Rev. Jerry Scott, pastor, East Moss Point, evangelist; C. H. "Pop" Stone of Gulfport, singer; Rev. C. I. Miller, pastor; services during week at 7:30 p.m., Sunday at 11 and 7:30.

Shiloh (Chickasaw): March 26-31; Rev. Billy Ray Nelson (pictured), pastor, Valley Grove, Pontotoc County, evangelist; Rev. Partee Tutor, pastor; five additions by letter; many rededications.

Highland Church, Laurel: April 23-28; Rev. Herman Milner, pictured, pastor of Van Winkle Jackson, evangelist; Jim Young, Minister of Music; Highland, Laurel, singer; Rev. Ralph Graves, pastor; services Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at 7:30 p.m.

Arkabutla Church, Arkabutla: youth-led revival; April 14-16; Rev. Benny Still of Clarke College, evangelist; Rev. Will Philpot of Clarke College, music director; services 7:30 p.m. during week; 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Sunday; Rev. Bobby Walton, pastor.

Second Church, Indianola: April 16-21; Rev. Bill Stewart, pastor; First Church, Eupora, evangelist; John Burke, minister of music, First Church, Belzoni, singer; Rev. Doyle Cummings, pastor, services during the week at 7:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Banner Church (Calhoun): April 16-21; Rev. Donnie L. Stewart, pastor of First Church, Coffeeville, evangelist; services Sunday 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; during the week at 7:30 p.m.; Rev. Millard L. Swinney, pastor.

Spring Hill (Marshall): April 23-28; services at 7:30 p.m.; Rev. Rex Yancy of Shannon, evangelist; Jack Robinson, song leader; Jo Young, pianist; Rev. Clyde Thompson, pastor.

Midway Church, Jackson: April 12-16; services at 7:00 p.m.; Rev. David M. Kimpton, pastor of Raumatia Baptist Church in New Zealand, evangelist; Dennis McIntire, music director; Rev. Benton Preston, pastor.

The revival will be climaxed on Sunday night, April 16, with the 75-voice youth choir singing a folk musical entitled "He's Alive."

Southside, Greenville: April 24-28; services at 12:15 and 7:30 p.m.; Rev. W. D. "Step" Martin, Calvary, Shreveport, evangelist; Price Harris, Calvary, Shreveport, La., singer.

Parkhill, Jackson: April 17-23; Rev. Rick Ingle of Denton, Texas, evangelist; Rev. Joe Stovall, pastor.

East Louisville Church (Winston): April 17-23; Evangelist: Rev. Eugene H. Dobbs, Pastor of McLaurin Heights Church, Jackson; Music: Under direction of pastor, Rev. Charles E. Davis, Sr. Services: 10:00 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Richland Church (Rankin): April 16-21; Dr. Damon V. Vaughn, left, Bossier City, La., evangelist; Tom Larimore, right, Jackson, singer; services at 7 p.m. during the week and 11 a.m. Sunday; Rev. Paul Williamson pastor.

First Church, Winona: April 9-14; Rev. J. Ray Grissett, pastor of First Philadelphia, evangelist; Tom Larimore of Jackson, full-time evangelistic singer, in charge of music; Rev. David Pratt, pastor, services at 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; "The Colonials" (Tom Larimore, Bill Clark, and Don Legg) presented a concert on Wednesday evening at

7:15.

7:15.

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Sunday School Lesson: International

The Church Organized For Its Mission

Acts 6:1-7; Ephesians 4:11-16;
I Timothy 3
By Clifton J. Allen

Properly, we consider the necessity for the church to be organized in order to carry out its mission. From a practical standpoint, we may think of organization as the divisions and assignment of responsibility in order to minister to all the members of the church and in order to get the work of the church done. The New Testament teaching about church organization shows that at first it was simple and informal. As the Christian movement grew, and as churches were established, simple patterns of church organization developed. But basic principles were clearly enunciated. These principles give guidance for the effective functioning of the church's life and for the performance of its work.

The Lesson Explained Assignment Of Responsibility Acts 6:1-7

The church in its beginning was an informal fellowship of believers. Then a problem arose which called for a division of responsibility in order that all the aspects of the church's life and work might be attended to. The Greek-speaking members of the church, largely from outside Palestine, murmured against the Aramaic-speaking members, charging that their widows were not receiving a fair distribution of food made available to those in need. The apostles then suggested that seven men be chosen to attend to this relief work. The congregation approved the suggestion, and seven men were chosen. The apostles were thus free to give themselves chiefly to prayer and the ministry of the word.

Organization was needed in the church for the sake of the church's ministry of preaching and teaching and its ministry of caring for the poor. The seven men had duties similar to those of deacons at a later time. The laying on of hands symbolized an assignment of responsibility and the setting apart to a special task. This development in the church in Jerusalem is a clear example of wisdom in dealing with a practical church problem.

**Equipment For Leadership
Ephesians 4:11-12**

In Paul's instruction in Ephesians, we have an emphasis not on office but on functions of leadership. Paul was stressing the matter of spiritual unit, and he emphasized that various gifts were essential to serving the church in its total life. God endows some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers. This does not mean that every church should have these specific offices. Rather, these functions of leadership are essential to the life and work of the church. Some are gifted in proclaiming the word of God or preaching. Some are gifted for evangelizing the unconverted. Some are equipped to nurture and instruct and train the believers, fitting the functions of the pastors and teachers. But all the functions are meant to equip believers for the work of the ministry. Members grow to the extent that they become involved with full dedication in doing the work of Christ.

**Organization For Growth
Ephesians 4:13-16**

Organization contributes to the full-rounded growth of the church and the effective performance of its work. Paul stresses the matter of unity, stability, and harmony, all with a view to the church becoming more nearly what the church in reality is, namely, the body of Christ. Plans need to be made and responsibilities need to be assigned which seek the growth of the church in unity of faith and knowledge that it may grow up toward the full stature of Christ. Again, organization is essential to implement the training and instruction which enables the church to be stable, not swept away by false teaching and deceitful influences, but established firmly in sound doctrine which contributes to strong conviction about matters of Christian faith and practice. Still further, organization is essential to the growth of a congregation so that all members are related to one another in harmony, each one being enlisted according to interests and abilities and needs.

J. O. Williams, right, presents gift of silverware from First, Lumberton, to Rev. and Mrs. Byron Malone.

First, Lumberton Honors Malones With Reception

Rev. and Mrs. Byron Malone, Cindy and Byron Lee, were honored at a reception in Fellowship Hall of First Church, Lumberton, (Malone began his ministry at Daniel Memorial Church, Jackson, on April 1). Over 200 members, as well as friends from United Methodist, Olive Baptist and several former First Baptist members, came to the reception to show their love and appreciation to the Malones.

J. O. Williams, speaking in behalf of the church family, listed the many accomplishments of the church during Malone's pastorate. In his nearly six years 132 people have been baptized and 250 other members received by letters, statement and baptism. Rev. and Mrs. Malone have led in the development of a youth ministry and recreational program. Ten young people have dedicated their lives to full-time service.

First, Lumberton voted to go into a long-range building program in 1970. Land has been purchased for a new pastorum and new sanctuary. On March 5, the church voted to build a new pastorum, first phase of the

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE
Thursday, April 12, 1973

Mr. Hall Improving

Many people over the state have been inquiring about the health of Dan Hall, director, Church Music Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Mr. Hall, who was critically ill several weeks ago, is now well on the road to recovery. As he is gradually regaining his strength, he goes to his office to work usually two or three hours daily. At this rate of improvement, he feels that he will be able to resume his full-time work schedule in the not too distant future.

long-range program. Future plans call for a new sanctuary and other educational space.

Financially the church has done well. A \$37,000 church debt has been paid. The church has bought and paid for \$18,000 worth of real estate and has accumulated a building fund of \$15,000. The budget has increased from \$37,000 to \$50,000 per year.

As a token of esteem and appreciation from church friends, Mr. Williams presented gifts of silverware, cookware, and a suit. More than \$600 was given as a love gift to this family.

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Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work

Acts 2:21-40

By Bill Duncan

A few years ago, our young people enjoyed a Christian folk musical called "Good News." It was very effective. Everytime I saw the production by a youth choir there were people who accepted Jesus Christ as Saviour. It was refreshing to see so many take a renewed interest in proclamation. The name was so fitting because the gospel it presented was good news to millions who heard for the first time the story of Christ Jesus in a 20th century mode. Many had only seen the truth of Jesus in the King James Version presentation and proclamation. We must always be searching for new ways to present the essential gospel in an effective manner. Man's need of salvation never changes.

Many are confused today about what the Gospel is. I once heard a sermon that was against whiskey by the drink and afterwards a lady came up to me rejoicing that the gospel had been preached. Truth had been proclaimed, but not the gospel. It was a good sermon and truthful, but not a

presentation of Jesus Christ as the great Saviour. The Gospel is the truth about Jesus Christ and what He did for our salvation. It is truly good news to all men who must be saved.

On the day of Pentecost, Peter was the spokesman for the Christian movement. His message has been an example of the presentation of the gospel. The result of the message and the conviction by the Holy Spirit brought 3000 converts that accepted Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. There is no formula that guarantees results. But many of the great Christians have agreed that we do not present the gospel unless we include these essential elements in our witness and preaching. (1) The birth and example of Jesus' life. (2) The death and atonement provided by Jesus as Saviour. (3) The resurrection and change that salvation demonstrates. (4) The invitation to accept Christ as Lord and Christ.

The great apostle Paul gave a direct statement concerning the message of the gospel in 1 Corinthians 15:1-10 as he introduced the resurrection. All the ideas were "according to the scriptures." The context and conclusion of the gospel is based on the idea that it is according to the scripture. The Birth and Example of Jesus' Life

The gospel according to Peter on

the day of Pentecost was that Jesus was a man who had been born of supernatural circumstances but subject to human laws. He was Jesus of Nazareth. Just a common man but approved by God because of miracles he was able to do. These miracles were by Him.

The life of Jesus shows us that we are sinful. Jesus never did anything wrong. When we compare ourselves to Jesus Christ we are very sinful. Many a person has compared himself with others that are sinful and thought that they were all right. But in comparison to Jesus we are sinful people.

The Death and Atonement
The "good news" of Jesus is that Jesus did something about the sin problem in our lives. He was crucified and slain by wicked men in an act of hatred, but Jesus died to show the world that God loved the world. The Love was to show that God cares and has provided a means that the sin burden can be lifted from our hearts.

Sin carries with it the wages of death, but Jesus died so that we will not have to suffer the penalty of our sin. But faith must be expressed in Jesus as Saviour and the sinner's life must be given to Jesus the Lord. The atonement of Jesus is available to all who will accept Him as Saviour and Lord.

The Resurrection and Change
The proof that Jesus was the Messiah, Saviour and Lord was furnished by the resurrection. The evidence that Peter presented to prove Jesus the person who was behind the movement of Pentecost and the supernatural Saviour that the Jews and the world had anticipated and needed. The Old Testament gave Peter the prophecies to prove that Jesus was David's Lord. Jesus was greater than the national and religious hero David because he came back from the dead.

The proof of our spiritual resurrection can be seen in the change that comes into the life of the born again believer. The changes that Jesus brings into the life are like the resurrection of Jesus from death into life.

The Invitation
The gospel is never complete until men know that they can be saved. The

invitation is the good news that the opportunity is ready. The message always calls for decision.

Billy Graham recently said that psychiatrists had recently studied his approach and program. They agreed on one thing as being good and that was the invitation. The opportunity to accept Jesus Christ and change him so much potential for good.

When the people on the day of Pentecost felt the power of the gospel, they wanted to do something about the desire of their heart. We need to continue in our day to give an invitation each time the gospel is presented. Man needs an opportunity to respond.

The good news has been called John 3:16, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth on him should not perish but have everlasting life. This is the simple form but it is the truth of God. If a sermon does not present this truth it is not the gospel. If we do not present this truth in our life we are not presenting the gospel.

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"Missions Banquet"

In Meridian

At First Church, Meridian, a spring "Missions Banquet" was held Wednesday evening, April 12, in Fellowship Hall. The speaker was Dr. Rogers M. Smith, assistant to the Foreign Mission Board secretary, SBC. Dr. Smith was in the state for the commissioning of new missionaries, a service held at the Coliseum in Jackson, on April 11. Mrs. Harvey Ray is president of the WMU at First, Meridian. Dr. Beverly Tinnin is pastor.

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2200 Young Musicians Sing At State Festival

There were 2200 junior - age children participating in the State Young Musicians' Festival on April 1 at the Coliseum in Jackson. Total attendance was around 2600, according to Derrell Billingsley, minister of music at First Church, Kosciusko, coordinator.

Mrs. Mabel Boyter of Atlanta, Ga., was guest conductor for the event, which was sponsored by the Church Music Department.

The rural (open country) church with largest attendance was given an autoharp. Mrs. Dallas Rayborn, choir director, accepted the award for Glendale Church, Lebanon Association.

The church with the largest total number of singers present was given an engraved trophy. Miss Karen Carter, president, Young Musicians' choir of Fairview Church, accepted the award for Fairview Church, Columbus.

The association in each of five districts with the largest percentage of churches attending was presented an engraved trophy. The five winners were Hinds (Bill Pharr of Alta Woods accepting the trophy); Monroe (Rick Van Egmond of First, Amory, accepting); Marion (Billy Jack Green, First, Columbia, accepting); Washington (Tommy Howard, First, Leland, accepting); Lowndes (H. G. Earwood, Fairview, Columbus, accepting.)

You have a way of becoming what you cherish devotedly and search for desperately. — C. W. Brister in *It's Tough Growing Up, a Broadman Book*

The ordeal of being young isn't child's play... it's a time of seeking to find who one is and searching for a place in life. — C. W. Brister in *It's Tough Growing Up, a Broadman book*

The Risen Lord Our Saviour

By James L. Travis, Blue Mountain College

The batter moved back from the plate and pointed with his bat toward the centerfield bleachers. Then, Babe Ruth stepped up and slammed the next pitch into those stands. He did what he said he would.

The quarterback of the Jets, a surprise team in the weaker AFL, told the press, "We'll beat the powerful NFL team in the Super Bowl." Joe Namath went out and did what he said he would.

No matter what we think of these two athletes personally, each of them proved he could do what he said he would.

In a far more significant and important way, Jesus did what He said He would do. He said He would die for our sins and that He would rise again. The fact that He came alive out of the grave is proof that His death was accepted by God for our sins.

Paul wrote in I Corinthians 15:17: "If Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins." Of course, Paul knew that Jesus had been raised. He was making clear the fact that since Jesus was raised, every one who trusted Him was free from his sins. When Christ rose from the dead, this proved His death for sins was accepted by God the Father.

Jesus had said, "The Son of man came . . . to give His life a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45). His rising proved His death was a satisfactory substitute.

Jesus had said, "This is my blood . . . which is shed for many for the remission of sins" (Matthew 25:28). When He came back to live, He proved His blood was accepted for your sins.

Of course, you know your sins are one because of several other reasons: 1. God's Spirit has assured your spirit that you are His. (Romans 8:16). 2. Your former guilt and shame are gone (Hebrews 9:14). 3. You believe the Scriptures which promise forgiveness in the name of Jesus. (Acts 10:43).

But, the resurrection of Jesus is undeniable, definite, substantial proof that God accepted Jesus' death for your sins. If Jesus rose, your faith in His death for your sins is vindicated. Your sins are gone. Praise God for His Son. What a wonderful Savior is Jesus my Lord!

"Nancy Jacob Stevens Educational Trust"

Is Established With Baptist Foundation

On Tuesday, March 28, John C. Stevens of Oakhurst Church, Clarkdale, established with the Mississippi Baptist Foundation the Nancy Jacob Stevens Educational Trust" as a memorial to his wife who died on November 20, 1971.

To fund this trust Mr. Stevens made a gift of stocks with a value of that day (March 28) of \$22,828.50. The total income produced from this trust is to be distributed to Blue Mountain College for scholarships for worthy young people with a preference being given to students from Coahoma County. The recipients of the scholarships "shall give evidence of good Christian character; a reasonable application of ability to opportunity; and a need for financial assistance."

Mr. Stevens states that his gift accomplished two objectives. First, he wanted an abiding and useful memorial to a wonderful wife who was a Blue Mountain College graduate; and second, he wanted through this memorial to assist and encourage young people to be prepared to perform in

life in keeping with high Christian principles and training.

Mr. Stevens expressed appreciation for his pastor, Dr. F. K. Horton, whose helpful advice and guidance made the establishment of this trust possible.

Check Presented To Baptist Hospital

The Hinds County Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association, Inc., has presented a check for \$100 to Mississippi Baptist Hospital.

The money is to go for the purchase of recent books on pulmonary diseases, the selection to be made by the hospital's library committee.

This was a project of the association's program planning committee, headed by Dr. G. Boyd Shaw.

"This contribution is much appreciated," said Paul J. Pryor, Mississippi Baptist Hospital Administrator, "and we will put the money to good use."

Carey To Give High School Juniors Free Chance To Try Out College Life

High school juniors will be given free tuition and a chance to try out college life without academic risk during the summer at William Carey College in Hattiesburg.

Named appropriately FREE THROW, the program will enroll only high school juniors who are average or above average in their grades. The student will have a variety of college-level courses to choose from during one or both of the regular 5-week summer sessions, beginning June 5. A small \$100 application fee will be charged and tuition will be waived until such time as the student begins his college career and wishes his earned semester hours to be recorded. If his summer grades are poor, they will not be recorded at all and he will not need to pay tuition.

All interested high school juniors or their parents are urged to contact the Office of the Vice President at William Carey College for further details.

Continue in college in the fall and omit their senior year of high school. Only very superior students, however, will be encouraged to do this. There will be no courses offered in FREE THROW that will be duplicates of courses to be taken during the senior year in high school.

Formerly high school juniors or their parents are urged to contact the Office of the Vice President at William Carey College for further details.

600 Attend Pleasant Grove Centennial

Pleasant Grove Church, Route 5, Brookhaven, celebrated its one hundredth year on March 5, with more than 600 people attending.

Former pastors Joe L. Johnson of Castle Heights Church, Tampa, Fla., and Edd Griffin of Woodland Park Church, Hammond, La., brought the morning and evening messages. In the absence of a pastor, William L. Byrd conducted the program of the day. Mrs. Johnnie Jackson and the choir brought special music.

At the close of the morning service everybody was invited into Fellowship Hall for dinner. Reminiscent of the past, a red - checked table cloth covered the long dinner table which was spread with an abundance of home-cooked food served in traditional "dinner on the ground" fashion. An old-fashioned garden bouquet and kerosene lamps completed the table decoration. During this hour guests were invited to tour the church building, grounds, and recently redecorated pastorium.

The afternoon service began with Mrs. Johnnie Jackson leading the singing of old-time favorite hymns. Preceding the afternoon message, recorded greetings and telegrams from former pastors were presented. Those sending greetings were: Dr. S. H. Jones, Taylors, S. C.; Rev. P. D. Bragg, Carthage; Rev. C. W. Hawks, Crystal Hill, Va., and Rev. Dewey Smith, Tuscaloosa, Ala. The church also received a message from Dr. Lemuel E. Smith of Carbondale, Ill. Dr. Smith was ordained to the ministry from this church in 1933.

At the close of the afternoon service booklets commemorating this centennial were distributed by the centennial committee.



A student group from Mississippi College, studying Baptist life and work, visited the Baptist Building on March 22. Therman Bryant, associate, Cooperative Missions Department, and director of in-service guidance, is at far left.



Crowded Classrooms At Central Center

Rev. J. C. Matthews is teaching in an over-crowded classroom at the Central Center of the Mississippi Baptist Seminary. The Central Center, in Jackson, has its largest enrollment this year. Two hundred and ten students are served by a faculty of seventeen.



Nashville-Book Presentation

Arthur Blessitt, center, recently presented copies of his Broadman Press book "Forty Days at the Cross" to Rev. Harry Kellogg, Jr., right, the pastor who ordained Blessitt in Mississippi twelve years ago. Blessitt and his wife Sherry, left, attended a youth breakfast at First Baptist Church, Smyrna, Tenn., where Kellogg is pastor.



Cooperville (Scott) Burns Note

Organized 1935, Cooperville Church, Scott County has grown, holding services first in an old school house, then a wood frame building, later adding an educational department, and finally moving into a new brick building. On March 19, 1972, homecoming was celebrated by the burning of the note, showing the church free of debt. The morning program consisted of the reading of the history of the church, given by Mrs. Roy Everett, with special music and recitation by Mrs. Jimmy Huffman. Four charter members present were given



Broadmoor, Gulfport, Begins Bus Ministry

Broadmoor Church, Gulfport, has begun a bus ministry. The bus above was purchased for \$150 from another church and reconditioned. It had a good motor, good chassis, six excellent tires, and a battered - up body. With the expenditure of \$350 in window replacements, body straightening and painting, re-covering of seats, brake and light adjustments, and a co-operative effort in labor by the bus crew, the bus crew is already talking about starting another bus, and a crew to operate it is being trained.

Dr. Aycock, says the bus ministry has created a new dimension in the church's outreach.

Off The Record

Louisiana Prof To Direct Summer Study In Hong Kong

Mother, said the little girl, "please button my dress."

"You'll have to do it yourself," was the reply. "I'm too busy right now."

"Oh, dear," exclaimed the youngster. "I don't know what I'd do without myself."

—Lorraine Adams

KINGSTON, Jamaica — Missionary Dan Carroll, traveling to an engagement at the far end of the island, stopped at a service station and asked the young attendant for two dollars and a half worth of gasoline. The youth put the gas pump nozzle into the car's tank, and the meter began to climb.

When it passed the \$2.50 mark, Carroll waved his arms frantically and asked for boy to stop. He calmly proceeded until the meter registered \$3.00. "But I told you I only wanted two dollars and a half worth of gas," protested the missionary.

"Yes, sir," agreed the youth, hooking the gas hose to the pump with an air of finality. "That is two dollars, and half of two dollars is one dollar. That will be three dollars."

Carroll says he paid the three dollars and left, adding, "Wouldn't you have?"

Total cost from Monroe and return is \$1,095.



Chaplains Commission Presents Painting Of Chaplain Gano To Southern Seminary

Retired Admiral James W. Kelly (left), director of the Chaplains Commission of the Home Mission Board, recently presented this painting on behalf of the commission to the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. President Duke McCall receives the painting by Erwin M. Hearne, Jr., which depicts John Gano, George Washington's chaplain, as he leads in a prayer of thanksgiving on April 19, 1783, after General Washington has announced peace terms to the troops.

Graham Films Released For Church Showing

The Billy Graham dramatic film, "FOR PETE'S SAKE," will be released April 15 for church showings on an offering basis.

Also the film, "HIS LAND" will be released on a rental basis June 1. Israel, a land torn asunder and bled by a succession of conquerors, lay dormant for centuries. Springing to life again in this century, Israel today is a living testimony to the words of the Old Testament prophets, and a portent of the triumphant return of Christ.

The story of Israel unfolds in "HIS LAND," a musical journey into the soul of a nation.

Anyone interested in having these films or other Billy Graham films may contact the Mississippi Film Commission, Sherman Barnette, P. O. Box 548, Elliott, Ms. 38926. Telephone (601) 228-5096.